

OBITUARIES

Patricia Ballinger

May 31, 1919 - Jan. 28, 2005

Patricia Ballinger, 85, died Friday at the Norton County Hospital.

Mrs. Ballinger, the daughter of Leslie and Daisy (Spring) Patrick, was born May 31, 1919, in Melvern.

She grew to womanhood in the Hartford area of eastern Kansas. She attended schools in eastern Kansas and Emporia Teacher's College.

On May 31, 1942, she and Paul E. Ballinger were married in Hartford. They made their home in Wichita, Arlington, Va., Washington, Georgia, and Honolulu. They returned to Kansas and lived in Stockton and Topeka before moving to Norton in 1993.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Kansas Authors Club, President's Club, and the Silver Haired Legislature. She wrote historical articles for the Hays Daily News and also owned her own business called the Happy Landing Pre-School for 15 years.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother.

Survivors include: her husband, Paul, of the Andbe Home in Norton; three daughters and their husbands, Caroline Grace and Ed Thomas, Springfield, Mo.; Nina Patricia and Douglas Goss, Topeka; and Anita Marie and John Milton, Grapevine, Texas; two sons and their wives, Edward Allen and Barbara Ballinger, Norton; and Paul Lee and Nancy Ballinger, Hamburg, Iowa; one brother and his wife, Phillip and Gloria Patrick, Sweeney, Texas; one sister, Shirley Murphy, Oswego; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Saturday at Enfield Funeral Home with Pastor Lew Van Der Wege officiating.

A memorial has been established to the First United Methodist Church. Contributions may be sent to the church at 805 W. Wilberforce, Norton, Kan. 67654

Charles F. Carey

Dec. 27, 1932 - Jan. 27, 2005

Charles Fredrick Carey, 72, Lenora, died Thursday at the Graham County Hospital in Hill City.

Mr. Carey, the son of Fred and Delilla (Born) Carey, was born Dec. 27, 1932, in Norton.

He grew up north of Morland, attended Union Rural Grade School and the Lenora High School, graduating with the class of 1951.

On Feb. 27, 1953, he and Reta Stephens were married in Clayton. They made their home in Lenora, and in 1966, moved to Norton where he worked for Ideal Truck Lines. In 1971, they moved to Clay Center, where he continued working for Ideal, and later returned to Lenora where he farmed.

He was a member of the Lenora United Parish Church, Lenora Senior Center, and the Clay Center Elks Lodge. He and his wife were also the recipients of the Graham County Soil Conservation

Banker's Award. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include: his wife, Reta, of the home in Lenora; five children, Marilyn and Jewell Murray, Garden City; Robert Carey, Morland; Glenda Lindsey, Salina; Cindy and Eugene Newman, St. George; and Steven and Michelle Carey, Salina; five grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

Funeral services were held Monday at the United Parish Church in Lenora with the Rev. Jack Kersenbrock officiating. Burial was in the Lenora South Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the Lenora United Parish Church and may be sent to the church at 140 E. Iowa, Lenora, Kan., 67645.

Enfield Funeral Home, Norton, was in charge of the arrangements.



Amy Nighswonger and Justin Robinson

Couple to wed

Amy Nighswonger, Norton, and Justin Robinson, Hill City, have set May 28 as their wedding date. They plan to be married at the United Methodist Church in Norton.

Parents of the couple are Ted and Linda Nighswonger of Hill City, Lee and Kathy Hardy of Norton, Dennis Robinson of Harper, and Jan Robinson of Wichita.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Norton Community High School and will graduate in May with an Associates degree in Business from Kansas Wesleyan University.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Chaparral High School and will also graduate in May with a Bachelors degree in Airway Science Professional Pilot from Kansas State University.

Gardeners talk about new plants

Garden enthusiasts who enjoy new garden varieties will be interested in the session "All American Gardens".

Keith VanSike, Norton County Director with K-State Research and Extension will present the information.

What about trying the new winter squash — "Sunshine" or Watermelon "Sweet Beauty" or ornamental "Millet Purple Majesty". These are just a few of the newest and hottest varieties that will be talked about.

Topics to be discussed will be the newest and hottest garden produce, flower and rose selections from the "All American Selections". Those will also be information on common insect and disease problems. An exchange of ideas will be welcomed by all.

Session times and dates are: Feb. 7 — 1 p.m., Norton County 4-H Building, Norton; 5:30 p.m., First State Bank basement, Hill City; Feb. 8 — 1 p.m. Sheridan County 4-H Building, Hoxie; 5:30 p.m., Decatur County Extension Office, Oberlin; Feb. 10 — noon, the public library in Quinter; and Feb. 10 — 5:30 p.m., Trego County 4-H Building, WaKeeney.

Contact your local K-State Research and Extension office in the county location to pre-register so materials may be prepared

Collections come in all shapes and sizes

Collectibles are a phenomenon that have become trendy in only the last twenty years or so. A recent auction was certainly a revelation as to what some collectibles are worth as we venture into the 2005 market. Even when I am out of my depth moneywise I enjoy watching a good auction action just to see what the going rates are. In earlier years not many had the resources or the time to indulge in collecting. Fewer opportunities existed before auctions, flea markets and antique dealers became so prevalent.

My first experience with a collection of any sort came when I was only five years old and my family moved to a house near an old school friend of Mama's. Those were the days when housewives would get together for coffee and chatter almost daily. I loved to go to Mollie's house, where there was a wonderful glass cabinet that held her collection of pitchers. I never tired of looking at them and always seemed to find one I'd never seen before. The tiniest one was a wee snail shell that had been converted into a pitcher by the addition of a little loop handle. The largest and most spectacular was probably my first exposure to Roseville pottery and to my amazement, a pitcher exactly like it brought over \$300 at an auction last month. Some pieces were pieces I now know were Royal Bayreuth, including a truly rare moose cream pitcher. Not one piece of that marvelous collection survived the 1952 tornado and it still brings tears to my eyes to think of the loss both sentimentally as well as financially.

Collectibles today are a hobby that men as well as women enjoy. Military memorabilia is a major masculine enthusiasm and it was

Collector Chat Liza Deines



illuminating to watch a large group of military uniform helmets, caps, weaponry and bayonets go on the auction block. Helmets brought between \$50 to \$150, with German and Japanese headgear being most prized although there was very spirited bidding on one of the old "soup bowl" helmets from WW I. Few fabric uniform caps survive but ones with braid sell best. Campaign caps and simple white sailor hats were easy to fold and store away so they are still fairly available and go for very reasonable prices. The bayonets varied in length from some that seemed quite small to me to some that looked so long I didn't see how they could balance the weapon when installed. They ran over \$100 each, no matter what their age, war or condition. Military commemorative medallions were selling very well, especially anything with Pearl Harbor connotations. Cast metal military toy airplanes and jeeps are scarce and if you have one in its original box you can name your own price. Old lead toy soldiers might as well be cast in gold for the bids they bring in.

Toy buyers are another group that includes both men and women enthusiasts. I sometimes suspect those guys paying \$200 for big yellow pieces of dirt moving equipment are fulfilling old dreams of toys they asked Santa for but never found under the tree. Farm toys, particularly tractors

and trucks, are strong sellers to retired farmers who once drove one "just like that". Authentic old cast iron toys go for \$100 to \$250 each but you need to be on the alert for the reproduction pieces that abound these days. A cast iron pumper fire engine with a separate team of horses brought in a wad of folding money and was resold to another dealer for double its price before it exited the auction hall. High toy dollar on a recent day was \$500 for a red and yellow painted cast iron tank truck. Women bidders were more interested in Barbie dolls, clothing, and accessories which are still selling very well. A child's sewing machine brought in \$100 on an absentee bid that was still going when the sitting bidder gave up. Miniature irons, washing machines, typewriters and cash registers, metal teaset and spinning tops, old Tonka trucks and not so old Fisher Price toys — they bring out the child in all of us. And Shirley Temple items can start a riot if the auctioneer doesn't watch his bidders very carefully.

Whatever your special interest may be, these are good times to seek and find. Many items are being dug out of the attic, out of Grandma's back closets and sometimes out of the barn or the old chicken house to be offered for sale. Maybe it's not fancy cut glass but rather 45 records, wooden bread bowls, Indian pottery or old license plates. Whatever you enjoy finding and displaying, never let anyone put down your choice of collectible. If it thrills your heart, who is entitled to criticize? Perhaps they covet mousetraps or nutpicks, pink pigs or old beer cans. To each his own!

MY MAMA SAID: If you love it, you'll dust it.

HANSEN MUSEUM

By LEE FAVRE

This Friday, Sandy Seamone and T.R. Mathews will be arriving at the museum from Colorado to hold another "Joy of Painting" weekend at the Hansen community room. These classes are part of the Museum's Continued Education Program, which offers various arts and crafts experiences to the public at reduced costs. Ms. Seamone and Mr. Mathews have taught the Bob Ross style painting classes here for many years and hold three weekend classes per year. This is a fun and enjoyable way to paint for the day; then take your completed project home to brag about. Treat yourself to a fun-

filled weekend.

For the serious artist, a four-day oil painting workshop will be held Feb. 17-20. Registrations are being accepted for the Barbara Schaffner workshop. A Wyoming artist, Ms. Schaffner has won many awards and top honors. Due to her fabulous painting and teaching ability, this will be her third workshop in Logan.

Stan Faulkender, "Artist of the Month" for January has picked up his wonderful paintings and hand-carved guns to make way for the February artist arriving today. Brenda Smith, Beloit, is the honored artist for February and will be displaying her paintings.

The Kansas Day Celebration was a success with around 400 visiting the Logan City building celebration and 80 visiting the museum. Many enjoyed the armor of the legendary Greek warriors and the knights of the Middle Ages now on display in the museum gallery. "Age of Armor" will be in house through March 13.

Country-dance classes continue at the Logan City building and instructor Kerry Ferguson, Kensington, has now completed week three. Dance will end on March 12.

Watch for more upcoming programs and classes brought to the area by the Hansen Museum.

4-H NEWS

By TIMOTHY BECKER

Jan. 16, the Busy Jayhawker 4-H Club held their regular monthly

meeting.

Members stated an interesting fact about Kansas for roll call.

Kenzie Esslinger talked about her dog, Riley. Alec and Jessica Gilgenbach informed the club of many facts about ceramics. Jacob VanSike told the members why it is important to keep minutes of the meeting.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of 4-H in Kansas.

The next meeting will be at 3 p.m., Feb. 20 at Rainbow Lanes Bowling Alley, Norton.

BIRTH

Scott and Robin Sproul, Norton, are the parents of a daughter, Gentry Robben, born Jan. 17 at Good Samaritan Hospital, Kearney. She weighed seven pounds, seven ounces and measured 20 1/2 inches long. The Sprouls also have a son, Gavin. Grandparents are Glen and

Elinor Wiltfong, Norton; Cheryl Scott, Edmond; and Robert and Shirley Sproul, Almena.

Great-grandparents are Lloyd and Glenna Sproul, Edmond.

READERS

— The Feb. 6 PITCH TOURNAMENT at Norton American Legion has been cancelled. 2/1

Dan and Sue Ann Skrdlant and Chris Tanner from Norton attended the Kansas Farm Bureau's Young Farmers and Ranchers conference in Salina this weekend.

— The family of Edna Paden requests a card shower for her 89th birthday, Feb. 5. Greetings will reach her at 306 So. Kansas Ave., Norton, Kan. 67654. 2/1

Nate Schaben began working for Rural Telephone on Jan. 17 as a Central Office Technician in Lenora. Mr. Schaben earned an associates degree in technology, received communications training through vocational technical school and formerly worked seven years as a contractor for Verizon Wireless. He lives in Selden with his wife, Jaclyn, and their two children.

— Walter Hazlett will be celebrating his 80th birthday on Feb. 5. Cards and greetings will reach him at 211 W. Waverly, Norton, Kan. 67654. 2/1

Rural Telephone has hired Lacey Smith as an Operations Administrative Assistant in Lenora. Ms. Smith who had been on a part-time basis since last August, accepted the position Jan. 3. She received a B.S. in agribusiness from Fort Hays State University and lives in Norton.

— Steak and seafood night, Thursday 6-9 p.m. American Legion, Members and guests. 2/1

— Norton Rotary Scholarship soup supper, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Feb. 4, Norton high school cafeteria. 2/1

— Heritage Quilt Club will meet on Feb. 7 at 7 p.m. at the Long Island Community Building. 2/1

MARKETS

At close of business Jan. 31	
Wheat	\$3.03
White Wheat	\$3.01
Milo	\$2.72
Corn	\$1.71
Soybeans	\$4.63

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